

Message Text

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ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 ACDA-10

NSAE-00 PA-02 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 EB-07 OMB-01 NSC-05 H-02 /088 R

66611

DRAFTED BY: OSD/GC-JJALLEN:NMC

APPROVED BY: L/SFP:LGFIELDS, JR.

EUR/NE-K. SHIRLEY

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R 142311Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

DA/TJAG

CDR NATO/SHAPE SPT GP BE

USNMR SHAPE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MORG, CFED, BE

SUBJECT: TAX DIFFICULTIES WITH BELGIAN GOVERNMENT

REFS: (A) BRUSSELS 6745

(B) ECLA 13511 (30 JULY 75)

(C) STATE 100861

(D) BRUSSELS 6362

1. WHILE REF A REFERRED TO LIST OF SEVENTEEN POSITION
QUARTERS TO BE SUBMITTED TO BELGIAN GOVERNMENT, WE
ASSUME THAT JUSTIFICATION WILL INCLUDE THE SIXTEEN
APARTMENTS FOR ENLISTED BACHELOR PERSONNEL, WHICH ARE
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MENTIONED REFS (B) AND (C). JUSTIFICATION FOR BACHELOR

ENLISTED QUARTERS IS WELL STATED IN THE MEMORANDUM OF
LTC PURDY DATED OCTOBER 28, 1974.

2. EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN TAX RELIEF FOR THESE QUARTERS
IS BELGIAN ACCEPTANCE OF PRINCIPLE OF CONTINUED EFFECTIVE-
NESS OF TAX RELIEF AGREEMENT. TACTICS AT JULY 11 MEETING
WERE TO AVOID DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT UNLESS GOB
OFFICIALS MADE ARGUMENTS CONTRARY TO U.S. POSITION. SUB-
JECT WAS NOT RAISED BY BELGIANS. IN FACT, THEIR ARGUMENTS
SEEMED TO ASSUME CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF AGREEMENT.

3. NEVERTHELESS, WE THINK IT BEST TO RESOLVE THIS KEY
ISSUE. EMBASSY WILL RECALL BELGIAN REPLY TO U.S. NOTE
(REF (E)) DID NOT ADDRESS BASIC TAX RELIEF AGREEMENT
QUESTIONS. NOW THAT MATTERS ARE TO BE PUT IN WRITING,
WE WISH TO TRY ONCE AGAIN TO ELICIT FORMAL GOB RESPONSE
ON THIS POINT.

4. ACCORDINGLY, LETTER TO GOB SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE
STATEMENT ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: "MY GOVERNMENT WOULD
ALSO LIKE AN AFFIRMATION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF BELGIUM
THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THE TAX RELIEF AGREEMENT OF
1952 CONTINUE TO APPLY TO UNITED STATES ACTIVITIES
IN BELGIUM."

5. AS MODIFIED ABOVE, EMBASSY AUTHORIZED TO SEND
LETTER TO BELGIAN GOVERNMENT. PLEASE PROVIDE DEPT
FULL TEXT OF COMMUNICATION WHEN TRANSMITTED.

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Message Attributes

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